FPLY TO THE PILOT.

WHOLE NUMBER, 13,544.

and from Governor O'Perrall and Attorney-General Scott.

STAR CHAMBER PROCEEDING.

Company to Suc.

it is now explained by

ewspaper, published in Sunday, December 23, article with these head Book Trust and How It ginia"—The Amazing mstances Attending the rust's Books—'The Reperintendent Massey to "Financial Facts for f Curious Incidents." neel to this article; the vouches for the truth its statements.

THE FACTS.

in June; 1882, March 13th; 1890, March 25th

HE BOARD DOES.

s history and readers will

ictory; no changes desired isfactory, except Holmes's make any change, on ac-

to Helmes's history and par; not enough to justify

With the exception or, no change desired, eneral satisfaction.

general satisfaction. hange desired, except

ome objection to Har-

objection to Venable's of arithmetics. wish for a change. Guffey's First, Second, to and Spencerian copy-od satisfaction; teachers use of Maxwell's gram-

explaint; times too hard even if desired. wing general satisfaction. factory. actory. reply to questions.

changes wanted.
No changes conten

Satisfactory, except Har nd-Entirely satisfactory

Russell-No changes desired.
Scott-No reply.
Shenandoah-Satisfactory; Webster's dictionary preferred to Worcester's.
Smyth-All giving satisfaction.
Southampton-Giving general satisfaction; no changes desired.
Spotsylvania-Giving satisfaction.
Stafford-Satisfactory.
Surry-Giving satisfaction.
Sussex-Entirely satisfactory.
Tazewell-No changes desired, unless to substitute Steele's for Johannot & Bouton's physiology.
Washington-Satisfactory.
Washington-Satisfactory.
Westmareland-Satisfactory.
Wise-No changes contemplated at present.

Wythe-Some objection to Harvey's

was adopted.

HOLDS FOR FOUR YEARS.

The contract called in the article "the niquitous contract," embraces a period of our years; that made by South Carolina

sur years; that make by South and South even years.

Select from the Virginia and South carolina contract the same school-book, and the "introductory price" (that is, for the new book) is the same. The "price in exchange" (that is, where books are exchanged), if this assertion in the article be correct, in lower. And this may be because the period of South Carolina's contract is longer than Virginia's.

But, be this as it may, embodied in and part of the board's contract for 1894 is this stipulation:

But, be this as it may, embodied in and part of the board's contract for 1894 is this stipulation:

"If the publisher of any book adopted for use in the public schools of Virginia fails to make the price thereof as low to the pupils of the public schools of Virginia as the same book is supplied to the pupils of the public schools of any other State under a State contract, the contract made by this board, or its representative with such publisher, may at the pleasure of this board be declared null and vold."

If this stipulation has been violated to the injury of the pairons and children of our schools, the matter will be investigated, and the wrong, if any there be, righted.

righted.

GOVERNOR AND ATTORNEY-GENE-RAL.

The article charges: "There is a mystery about these contracts. Several months after the contracts were signed O'Ferrall stated that though he had signed the contracts as a member of the board, he did not know who drafted them, and on the same occasion Attorney-General Scott said he had never seen the contracts, and did not know who draw them, and this though he was the chief law officer of the State."

The form of this contract had been in

when reduced to writing and signed by the Governor, the contract had on it the terms, etc., as agreed between the parties to it—then and now believed to be for the good of the Commonwealth, and the discreet, proper, and honest exercise of the authority and power entrusted by the Constitution and laws of Virginia to the Board of Education.

THE BOARD'S SECRETARY.

The records of the board are kept open to inspection, as the law directs. They are in the custody of their secretary, J. A. McGilvray, efficient, industrious, kind, and courteous. He is ready and prompt to make copy of papers and exhibit "the minutes," contracts, and other papers to any and all who come to him with authority from the board or any member of it. What more can any reasonable man ask?

of g or procuring the use of any book, map, or school asparatus or furniture of any kind in any public free school of this State. And any school officer or teacher who shall violate this provision, besides being removed from his post, shall be subject to a penalty of not less than 310 nor more than \$500."

In the light of day, go before the grand inquest of the country, make your accusation, and take the consequences. Do not stab in the dark!

Very respectfully,

CHARLES T. O'FERRALL.

Governor of Virginia,

R. TAYLOR SCOTT.

Attorney-General of Virginia,
RIchmond, Va., December 27, 1894.

Book Company Will Sue.

Book Company Will Suc.

Book Company Will Sue.

Mr. J. W. Womack, the agent of the American Book Company, who is charged inforentially in the Pilot's article with having bribed Mr. Massey, returned from New York yesterday, and brought with him the following letter:

Sir.—We have read the sensational article published in the Norfolk Pilot of Sunday last, charging the State Board of Education of Virginia and our representative with wholesale bribery and corruption in connection with the adoption of school text-books for the State and awarding contracts for the state and awarding contracts for the supply of the same. The proper tribunal to investigate such charges is a court of the Common-wealth of Virginia, and we shall only trespess on your space at this time to say that every material charge, so far as it affects this company, or its representatives, its dealings, or its methods, is misleading, faise, and libelious, and we assure the people of Virginia that the falsity of those charges and their libelious character will be fully established by suits which will be instituted at once.

Respectfully,

AMERICAN BOOK COMPANY,

New York, December 27, 1894.

Coldest Day of the Winter.

Yesterday was by far the coldest day that Richmond has experienced this winter. The thermometer stood at 25 degrees arly in the morning, then went up to 30 legrees, and by midnight went down to 5 degrees. The streets were frozen hard il day, and long and heavy icicles hung rom the fountains in Capito! Square and isewhere. The weather prophets promise till colder weather to-day. Owing to the midden change in the temperature the teather has been more severe upon pestrians than it would otherwise have seen.

Charged With Insulting Ladies.
Thomas Wood was arrested by Policeman Austin, of the Second District, last uight on the complaint of two young adies, guests of the Lexington, and carlid to the station-house, where the charge of being drunk and insulting ladies on he street was lodged against him. The ffence is alleged to have been committed hortly after dark on Main street near the otel.

will be too, late if they have not already attended to that part of the business. The to the absence of the Virginia delegation tests are to be waged. Two of the Republican candidates decided not to conran against Mr. Meredith in the Eighth District, and Mr. Walker, who was the competitor of Congressman Turner in the elected, and Messrs. Meredith and Turner will be saved much annoyance. Contests are meerned, and the Republican leaders of the next House will be glad that the num-ber of contests from Virginia is to be smaller than at first indicated.

smaller than at first indicated.

From what can be heard here, it is
thought that at least five of the Virginia
Republican candidates have served notice
of contest. It is supposed also that McDonald has taken similar action against Mr. Jones in the First District, and if that be true the number will be increased

seen in session in this city for the past few days, is one of the largest and most successful gatherings of the sort that have ever taken place. The Virginia and North Carolina universities and colleges are not as well represented in numbers as it was supposed they would be, but the delegates who have been in attendance from those States will have much to tell

General regret is expressed among the older members of the fraternity that Congressman James W. Marshall, of the Ninth Virginia District, could not be here. The Alpha Taus had confidently counted on having their Brother Marshall with them. They wanted one of his stirring speeches at the banquet, and to have him give the congress a talk such as he from the Ninth was compelled to go to his home in Craig county. He became a member of the fraternity at Roanoke

buted much to the life of the congress is Mr. J. B. Green, of the University of Vir-ginia. Not only has he spoken with much but last night at the reception tendered the delegates at the Ebbitt House by the District of Columbia Alumni Association, he sang a humorous song fashioned after "Pinafore," in which he made some strik-ing hits by bringing in a number of the Greek letter societies.

Greek letter societies.

Mr. White, of Chapel Hill, is one of the well-known North Carolina delegates. He has always taken a most active interest in the fraternity, and on accoun

Still another fraternity opened its convention here to-day. It is the Phi Kappa Sigma, and among Virginians who are Sigma, and among virginians who are in attendance may be mentioned Messrs.

J. Tom Morriss, of Richmond; G. G. Clay, of Lexington, and Nelson S. Groome, of Hampton.

Mr. Eppa Hunton, Jr., of Warrenton, member of the Virginia Legislature, is spending a few days in the city.

E. M. Funkhouser, of Staunton, is at

E. M. Funkhouser, of Staunton, is a

A post-office to be known as Delclisur has been established in Lee county, Va., with John Delclisur as postmaster. After January 1st mail service from Tyson's Mills to Sanford, in North Carolina, will be curtailed so as to begin at Rosewood, omitting Tyson's Mills, decreasing the distance three and a quar-

Among the fourth-class postmasters appointed to-day were:

North Carolina—Snowden, Currituck county, F. P. Snowden vice M. H. Snoden, resigned; Swepsonville, Alamance county, R. N. Cooke vice Arnold Rosenthal, resigned.

Virginia—Homerville, Sussex county, J. A. Beale vice L. J. Chappell, resigned.

several sensational utterances, in which
John Burns, Member of Parliament, the
great commoner of England, came in for a
stirring rebuke, delivered in stentorian
tones by Colonel W. H. Rend, the wellknown coal operator of Chicago and
owner of several mines in the Pittsburg
District. The other feature was a plain
but forcible statement of the struation
in Pittsburg mining circles, presented by
John McBride, president of the United
Mine-Workers and president-elect of the
American Federation of Labor, in which
he openly avowed that the conditions today are worse than they were prior to the
general strike.

Streen of the eighteen large ledgers, and
hus shown which entries are correct and
which are not.

DIED OF HYDROPHOBIA.

W. H. Lindsay, of Bedford County, a Vietim to the Dread Disease.

LYNCHBURG, VA., December 28.—W.
H. Lindsay, an aged citizen of Bedford,
died yesterday afternoon from hydrophobia. About six months ago a rabid dog
in the neighborhood of Clay's crossing
bit several horses and cattle, and all of
the animals were taken with hydrophobia

he openly avowed that the conditions today are worse than they were prior to the
general strike.

Mr. Chapman, of the Standard Coal
Company, was chosen to preside. He
suggested that John Burns, who was yesterday in the lobby, should be invited
to a seat in the convention, but when a
motion to this effect was made Colonel
Rend arose and said:

"Mr. Chairman, I object to the courtesies of this convention being extended
to Mr. Burns, who is here for the double
purpose of discussing labor matters and
also of slandering and vilifying American
institutions. Mr. Burns is a stranger in
America; it is, therefore, more fitting
that he should observe the decencies and
proprieties of the position that he occupies. These proprieties he has constantly violated by his malignant attacks
upon our institutions. I would advise
that Mr. Burns return to the country
from which he came and criticise the
customs, manners, and institutions of
his own land, which he will find inlinitely more deserving of his criticism
and abuse than anything he can find here.

"I know it is the custom for blarsted
Britzher's to induke in improprieties; but

Webster's ster's.

Ster's.

CONGRESSIONAL CONTESTS MUST HAVE ALREADY BEEN ANNOUNCED.

The Greek Letter Congresses in Washington-Grand Banquet of the Alpha Taus at Wormley's.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 25.—

(Special.)—Republican congressional candidates at the late election in Virginia who intend to comest and who have not filed their formal notices on the Democratis will be too, late if they have not already

Will be too, late if they have not already

Without reaching a settlement of the wage-rate. The question was left to a committee, consisting of tarse operators, three miners, and three disinterested citizens of Pittsburg. This committee will not meet inside of two weeks, and in the mean time the district rate will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the Malinad-Coal Operators' Association.

But three members of the committee were appointed, and they represented the miners. The operators will appoint their three members next week, and these six will select the three disinterested citizens. The committee will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the miners. The operators will appoint their three members next week, and these six will select the three disinterested citizens. The committee will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the miners in the mean time the district rate will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the mean time the district rate will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the main 56 cents, the price adopted by the mean time the district rate will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the mean time the district rate will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the mean time the district rate will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the mean time the district rate will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the mean time the district rate will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the mean time the district rate will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the mean time the district and the mean time the district rate will remain 56 cents, the price adopted by the main 56 cents, the price

prevented.

Secretary McBride said the miners in this district made less than fi a day, and that if the operators would not try and arrange a living rate, it was impossible for the miners to strike to uphold the district rate, as they had no money to live on. The miners that worked for less than fi a day could not support themselves, let alone those that would be willing to go on strike for a uniform rate.

Consequence of the Frigidity. extreme cold the attendance at the races to-day was very poor, many of the regulars being absent, and those few who regulars being absent, and those few who braved the weather remaining in the bet-ting-ring and paddocks. Aside from a few ladies, the grandstand was entirely de-serted.

The races as a whole were fairly well contested, Burrell's Billet and Johnny Mc-Hale being the winning favorites. Elberon, Miss Perkins, and Uncle Luke won the remaining events easily.

Hale being the winning Hottes.

Hale being the winning Hottes.

Hot rack was quite hard, and the time, as a result, was slow. Attendance, about fifteen hundred.

First race—three fourths of a mile—Elberon (197, Finnesan, 4 to 1) won, Merritt (194, Newcom, 8 to 5) second, Salina (194, Penn, 16 to 5) third. Time, 1:16 1-2.

Second race—six and one half furlongs, selling—Miss Perkins (102, Barrett, 7 to 1) won, Young Arlon (112, McDonald, 20 to 5) second, Denver (109, Harold, 2 to 1) third. Time, 1:23 1-2.

Third race—three fourths of a mile, selling—Uncle Luke (197, A. Clayton, 3 to 1) won, Panway (197, Finnegan, 3 to 1) second, Ben Wilson (197, Harold, 8 to 1) third. Time, 1:16.

Fourth race—five eighths of a mile, selling—Johnny McHale (198, Clayton, 2 to 1) won, Norma (198, Newcom, 4 to 1) second; Buckeye (198, 2 to 1) third. Time, 1:26:1-2.

CIRCULAR TRACK ADOPTED.

WASHINGTON, December 28.—The chute at the Old Dominion track to-day was a sheet of lee, and consequently all the races were run on the circular track. Those scheduled at five furiongs were made four and a half, and the long-distance race was made an even mile, to suit the changed conditions. The track is expected to be in a much improved condition to-morrow.

First race—four and a half furiongs—Keramas (4 to 1) won, Imported Bones second, Lady Superior third. Time, 594.

Second race—six and a quarter furiongs—Frince John (4 to 5) won, Johnny second, Thiers L third. Time, 1:20.

Third race—four and a half furiongs—Fluellen (5 to 1) won, Governor Fifer second, Lou Fister third. Time, 1:39.

Fourth race—four and a half furiongs—Joyeuse (9 to 5) won, Farragut second, Jewell third. Time, 53.

Fifth race—one mile—Firste Chief (4 to 5) won, C. O. D. second, Cheddar third. CIRCULAR TRACK ADOPTED.

Fifth race-one mile-Pirate Chief (4 to won, C. O. D. second, Cheddar third.

ANOTHER BANK SHORTAGE.

It Results from Examination Into Defalcations Previously Discovered. ROME, N. Y., December 28.—Another revelation has been made in the affairs of the Central National Bank, of Rome, not be "investigating comction 1472, Code of 1887, is as "No member of the Board * " shall have any pest directly or indirectly receive lument, reward, or promise his influence in recommending the use of any book, apparatus or furniture of any public free school of any public free school of any specific for any

capital of the bank, and the stockholders will be called together to decide whether to make good the shortage with a view to reopening the bank.

Major Gillette, the accused teller, has been rearrested upon a charge of complicity with Casher Bielby in defrauding the bank of \$25,000. He is in charge of an officer at his house, where he is ill, and will be arraigned to-morrow.

THE SEELY SHORTAGE.

Recover from Baker Estate. NEW YORK, December 28,-James L Bank, with a book-keeper of that insti-tution, has daily visited the Ludlow-

The office at Regan, Robeson county, N. C., has been discontinued; mail to St. Paul's.

Among the fourth-class postmasters appointed to-day were:
North Carolina-Snowden, Currituck county, F. P. Snowden vice M. H. Snoden, resigned; Swepsonville, Alamance county, R. N. Cooke vice Arnold Rosenthal, resigned.
Virginia-Homerville, Sussex county, J. A. Beale vice L. J. Chappell, resigned.

JOHN BURNS REBUKED.

This One of Two Sensations at the Minc Convention.

PITTSBURG, PA. December 28.—The opening session of the joint convention of the operators and miners of the Pittsburg railroad-coal district was marked by several sensational utterances, in which John Burns, Member of Parliament, the great commoner of England, came in for a sensational visited the Ludlow-street file stending to state of Samuel C. Szely, has been making a minute examination of the shark's books, with a view to obtaining evidence on Samuel C. Szely, has been making a minute examination of the stolen money. Yesterday was spent in the examination of a great pile of books. To-day again to helping the bank straighten out these tangled accounts by pointing out the false targeted accounts by pointing out the false targeted accounts in the work on the accounts. It was that during the last three years Frederick Eaker deposited not a cent with the bank, although he drew out thousands. The sum total of all his deposits since the stealing began, it has been ascertained, does not exceed \$5,000. Mr. Bishop said that Seely is verifying a transcript of the accounts taken from sixteen of the eighteen large ledgers, and say the state of the eighteen large ledgers, and such a contract the stealing began, it has shown which entries are correct and which are not.

the animals were taken with hydrophobia and had to be killed. The dog was owned by Lindsay, who had a wheelwright-shop at Clay's, and it bit him before it was killed.

Lindsay suffered from no ill-effects until last Saturday, when he was suddenly

Lindsay suffered from no ili-effects until last Saturday, when he was suddenly taken ill, and the physicians who were called saw unmistakable signs of hydrophobia, such as aversion to water, etc. Nothing could be done for him, and he lingered until 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, when he died.

The deceased was 86 years of age, and one of the best known wheelwrights in this section of the State.

Norfolk merchants all admit they have had a very fair Christmas trade. Dr. T. J. Pretiow, of Southampton county, is now able to walk about his room.

A child of Mr. Cason Cherry, in Ports-mouth, has been fatally injured, it is thought, by drinking a half pint of gaso-

new steamer at this season.

The foot-ball contest in Norfolk yesterday afternoon between the college boys and the Hampton team resulted in a defeat for Hampton by a score of 18 to 0.

White-Caps entered the home of John Hale, at Rural Retreat, Wythe county, Thursday night, and, taking him out, gave him a severe whipping with a rawhide, and ordered him to leave the county at once.

BEFORE THE LEXOW COMMITTEE, BUT NOT FOR VINDICATION.

per Martin on the Stand-

NEW YORK, December 28 .- Anthony

mittee to-day for vindication, alone stage of the proceedings. At the outcommittee had received a letter from Mr. Comstock in regard to Street's testiabout \$30,000 or \$40,000, which did flot include the family residence, in Tenth street.

clude the family residence, in Tenth street.
Williams admitted having received 44,000
or \$5,000 from Fleiss and Hoey,
whiskey men. This was paid in cash
in various sums, and was a voluntary
offering on the part of the contributors.
As Williams put it, "Mr. Fleiss told me
he was dealing in stocks, and he would
take chances for me and give me the resoit. That was in 1878."

"Did you ever invest a dollar with him
for the purchase of stocks?"

"No, sir."

"What had you done to cause him to be
go friendly to you?"

what had you done to cause him to be so friendly to you?"
"Nothing."
"And you—a police captain—accepted sums of \$4,000 or \$5,000 from a man in whose hands you never placed a dollar for speculation?"
"He was friendly to me."
"How did you look at that transaction?"

"Fleiss offered me the money, and I took it."
"Did not you consider it indelicate?"
"No, sir; I thought it was a good thing."
By implication, Mr. Goff, in his questions, accused Williams of receiving valuable presents from keepers of dives, disorderly houses, etc., but Williams could not be cornered. He denied everything, and sometimes with considerable heat.

DOESN'T KNOW WHAT "DIVE" MEANS. In the course of his part of the examination Williams professed ignorance of the meaning of the word "dive." Mr. Goff read a letter which Mayor Hewitt wrote to the police commissioners complaining about the violation of the laws in the Tenderloin Precinct when

ns was captain. "Did Mayor Hewitt write what was true or false?" "He wrote what was false." "Did the grand jury, when they entered a protestation against you, state what was untrue?"

"Yes, sir."
"Oh! they are all liars, I suppose," snapped Mr. Goff.
The Inspector was excused for a moment, and a young man named Morris Rosenfehi took the stand.
"Where do you live?" asked Mr. Goff.

"I am afraid to give my present resi-dence, as the police would kill me," said He said he visited Inspector Williams money. The Inspector said, 'Then you don't care for money.' I said I did not, and he called me a liar, 'Sheenya,' said he, 'killed Christ for a few pieces of silver.' He then ordered me out of his

After recess it was definitely announced Captain John Delaney was called and examined. He owns some property, and his answers to questions about how he acquired it soon secured his release from the stand. Mr. Goff said: "Captain Delaney, in mercy to you I will allow you to you without further question. In respect for your dead wife I will not ask you anything further about this money."

COMMISSIONER MARTIN. COMMISSIONER MARTIN.
Commissioner Martin was then called. He said he was a prominent member of Tammany Hall, but he knew nothing about payments from liquor-dealers to Tammany. He heard that money was being paid to the police by liquor-dealers, but could get no proof of it.

Mr. Goff read letters from Tammany Hall recommending applicants for the police force. Among the writers of the letters were William H. C. Sulzer, Chairman Hinckley, and Roswell P. Flower.

letters were William H. C. Sulzer, Chairman Hinckley, and Roswell P. Flower.
"And so," said Mr. Goff, "it comes to pass that the New York police force has been made the stamping-ground for applications from all over the State?"
"Yes, sir," responded Mr. Martin, "and from other States."
The witness was asked what he thought of the organization of the police at the Chicago Fair by General Rice, who said he would not accept letters of recom-

Mr. Goff then asked if it were possible Mr. Goff then asked if it were possible for corruption to have existed in the police force without the knowledge of the witness.

"Yes, sir," replied Mr. Martin, "and it did exist without my knowledge by Captain Schmittberger."

The Commissioner was released after promising to return to-morrow and explain his financial affairs.

May Not Recover.

SHELBYVILLE, IND., December 28.—
Yesterday evening, William Leavitt, accompanied by Minnie Maple and Susie Mitchell, went from their homes, four miles south of Shelbyville, to attend a party ten miles away. After the party they started home, but in the storm that was raging Leavitt, who was unacquainted with the roads, missed his way, and became lost.

This morning at 2 o'clock County-Commissioner Henry Oltman, who lives in the southern part of the county, was awakened, and going to the door met Leavitt, who was so cold he could hardly explain what was the matter. Finally, Oltman was made to understand, and they went out to Leavitt's buggy. Both the young ladies were unable to speak, and were unconscious. They were carried to the house and averything was done to

wery Cool Weather at Weldon.
WELDON, N. C., December 28.—(Special.)—The weather here is extremely cold to-day. The mercury dropped many degrees last night, and to-day the earth is hard frozen. Snow fell here during the early morning hours. At this writing the clouds are breaking away.

The Democrats elected to the next Legislature are at Littleton this week, where depositions are being taken in the contest by the defeated Republican-Populist combination.

ANTHONY COMSTOCK, the county home for the

Two Women Suffocated.

NORWICH, CONN.. December 28.—
Michael Brennan, a farmer living in the town of Sprague, returned home to-day to find his wife and sister both dend in a closed upper room. The bed was partially burned, and Mrs. Brennan's hands and arms were also severely burned. It is thought Miss Mary Brennan, aged 70, while smoking in bed, set the clothes on fire. She called Mrs. Michael Brennan, who was quite old and partially blind, to help put out the fire. On entering the room became filled with the dense smoke, and although the women succeeded in extinguishing the fire, they were both suffocated.

Prominent Man Frozen to Death.

PEEKSKILL, N. Y. December 28.—

James H. Robertson, a brother of Senator
George W. Robertson's, was found in the
road near the Gospel Mission, in the
Seventh Ward, early this merning frozen
to death. He was a prominent citizen,
and had been Mayor of Peekskill for
several terms, He had been addicted to
drink of late, and it is supposed he was
under the influence of liquor last night.
A widow and three children survive him. They Shot Each Other.

CHARLESTON, S. C., December 28.—A
News and Courier special from Cypress,
S. C., says: A most horrible killing took
place about eight miles north of that
place, near Kellytown, on Christmas-day,
Mr. Harvey Kelly and Mr. Frank Fields,
two farmers and young married white
men about 22 years old, became involved
in a quarrel, and drew pistois and shot
each other, Mr. Harvey Kelly was killed
instantly, and Mr. Fields is mortally
wounded.

The London Field says the question a cup-race is at a standstill.

The Commercial Bank, of Spokane Wash., a private institution with a capital of \$50,000, has suspended payment.

William C. Poe, grandson of the famo Indian fighter, and brother of Gener O. M. Poe, of Detroit, died at Massillo O., yesterday. At an early hour yesterday the Nor-wegian ship Austriana, lying in the har-bor at Pensacola, was destroyed by fire, proving a total loss.

The loss by Taursday night's fire at Broadway and Filimore avenue, Buffalo, is now placed at \$200,000, and is nearly covered by insurance. At Tampa, Fla., yesterday the explosion of an oil-stove caused a fire which de-stroyed a house and inflicted fatai inju-ries on 3-year-old Freddie Sims.

Fifteen Social Democratic meetings held in Berlin have endorsed the compromise of the beer boycott. One meeting unani-mously rejected the compromise.

Colonel Zebe Ward, for ten years lesse of the Arkansas penitentlary, died last night at Little Rock of heart and kidney trouble, in the 74th year of his age. The Pope has completed the text of his encyclical in regard to the position of the Church in the United States, but is still engaged in revising the manuscript. Reports reached Galveston early yesust be that "But Inspector Williams," said Mr. Goff. "But Inspector Williams," said Mr. Goff. Masonic, Captain Dixon, was on fire in the outer roads, ten miles below the city.

The agitation among the people of Augusta. Ga., over the death of Detective Murray, which threatened yesterday morning to find expression in violence, has quieted down.

The Emperor Francis Joseph has accepted the resignation of the Wekerle Ministry, thanking the ministers for their services and their devotion to the interests of Hungury.

'W. W. Coleman, a well-known merchant of Baldwin, Fla., was shot and killed Thursday by his son, Otis, a youth of 18 years, on undertaking to beat his wife, the boy's mother.

Coveressman W. C. P. Breckinridge dewife, the boy's mother.

Congressman W. C. P. Breckinridge delivered his lecture on "Eras of American Development and Their Great Men"
to forty persons at the Opera House in
Terre Haute last night.

The Cologne Gazette asserts that England and Germany have agreed on concerted action on the part of the British and German fleets in Chinese waters in the event of an emergency.

Lieutenant C. H. Lyman, who was the navigating-officer of the Kearsarge when she was wrecked at Roncador Reef, has been ordered to duty in the Equipment Bureau of the Navy Department.

The French Government is constructing, with all possible rapidity, twelve gunboats and twenty-six barges, which will be sent in sections to Madagascar for the use of the French expedition. the use of the French expedition.

It is announced that the stock of the Whittier Cotton-Mills, Lowell, Mass., is to be increased from \$75,000 to \$200,000, and that a new mill of brick, three stories high, will be built in Georgia.

The four-masted schooner Richard S. Spofford went ashore opposite Ocracoke Light, N. C., Thursday morning, and is a total loss. All hands were saved except the steward, whose name is not known.
Flortida will have a unique exhibit at

the steward, whose name is not known.

Florida will have a unique exhibit at the Atlanta Exposition, consisting of a phosphate pyramid fifty feet high, the Plant Investment Company, through its land department, making the exhibit for the State.

There is a strong feeling in certain quarters at St. Johns, N. F., that the arrests of the directors and manager of the Commercial Bank there are largely due to political animosities, and the surroundings lend color to it.

The Cologne Gazatte says Germany and

The Cologne Gazette says Germany and Austria wiil probably follow the lead of Italy in ordering her Ambassador at Con-stantinople to co-operate with the repre-sentatives of other Powers in taking ac-tion in regard to the horrors of Armenia.

county. N. C., who started south with his prisoner without delay.

The President has approved the act to establish a national military park at the battle-field of Shiloh similar to the parks at Gettysburg and Chickamauga, carrying an appropriation of \$75,000 for the purpose of securing the necessary land and making improvements.

The President has approved the findings of the examining board which recommended that Mates Silas T. C. Smith and Frank Holler be placed upon the retired list of the navy, under authority of the act of the present Congress, for disability incurred in the line of duty.

The Indian legislative council, by a vote of eleven to nine, has passed bills amending the act of 1894 by adding cotton yarns and fabrics to the list of imported articles dutiable at 5 per cent., and levying a 5-per-cent. excise duty upon cotton-goods manufactured in India.

Ex-Alderman William J. Stewart, of

THEPOPCONFERENCE

IT RESOLVES THAT MONEY IS THE It Calls for an Investigation of the Allege

Denounces Cleveland. nittee and 270 party leaders met is conference this morning in the assembly room of the Lindell Hotel, under Chair-man Taubeneck, of Illinois. A wrangle over the admission of reporters revealed was only an advisory one, and that all resolutions acted on by them should be President Boyd and a committee from the Merchants' Exchange invited the visitors

this city. Action on this will be held to-morrow in committee. On reassembling at 2 o'clock the National Committee, still lacking a quorum, met with the conference. The call of States developed the fact that the Omaha platform would be endorsed.

Mr. McMahon, of Alabama, retold the Kolb-Oates contest, and denounced Democrats for again wielding the whip and shackles of old-time slavery.

Matters moved smoothly, and cheering was plentiful as each State was called. After Georgia reported the conference

was pientiful as each State was called. After Georgia reperted the conference adjourned until to-morrow.

Illinois was responded to by Mr. Taubeneck, who spoke hopefully of the future. Iowa brought Generai J. B. Weaver from the chair. He had little to say of his State, but read a resolution to the effect that the financial issues were the keynote of the coming campaign, side-tracking the land and transportation questions. This precipitated a stormy wrangle, and it became plainer than ever that no plank in the Omaha platform was to be ignored. Weaver's contention was for a trially of money—gold, silver, and paper—to be controlled in volume and value by the government atone. He insisted that money was the winning issue, and that the Peowas the winning issue, and that the Peo-ple's party, which was strong in principles and weak in tactics, should recognize that ssue and meet it.

He asked some troublesome quest
out the resolution passed.

DEBS AND HOWARD.

A resolution was presented denouncing the judgment against E. V. Debs and G. W. Howard, of the American Railway Union, and Mr. Howard was invited to speak. He took the meeting by storm. Mr. Sovereign, of the Knights of Labor, followed in an impassioned address. The resolution, after discussion, was adopted. The best speech of the session was made by S. C. Crosby, of Kansas City, Mo. He is an attorney and a Republican who was converted to Populism a year ago. After consuming his allotted five minutes in confessing Republican sins against the convictions of his political conscience, the conference insisted on his continuing, arsi Mr. Crosby reviewed the field from a Populist standpoint in a tenminutes talk that was emphasized with DEBS AND HOWARD.

minutes talk that was emphasized with wild applause. During the succeeding call of States resolutions were offered and adopted to

Mr. Astor's Grief. LONDON, December 28.-At 6:10 o'clock body of Mrs. William Waldorf Astor carried from the drawing-room of the Astor residence, Cliveden, to a funeral-

HEAVY GLOOM AT CLIVEDEN.

Columbia, and Falling. COLUMBIA, S. C., December 28.-It

FLORIDA_CROPS THREATENED.
JACKSONVILLE, FLA., December 28.—
The cold wave has struck Florida, and dispatches to the Times-Union indicate that it will prove a record-breaker. At nearly all points in South Florida the thermometer is below freezing at 11 o'clock to-night. Great damage is feared to the orange and vegetable crops. At 11 o'clock at Jacksonville the thermometer stood at 19 above. It will be several days before the damage to fruits and vegetables can be estimated.

IN ALABAMA.

IN ALABAMA. BIRMINGHAM, December 28.—The thermometer registered 16 above zero to-night. The indications are that it will be much colder in the morning.

NOTES FROM THE WAR. China Now Being Aided in Its Defence

able dispatch to the Herald from hanghal says: Private letters from Wei-

shanghai says: Private letters from WeiHal-Wei affirm that China's fleet is in a
hopeless condition.

In their operations by land the Chinese
are following the famous Russian tactics,
of 1812, and harassing the flanks of the
first army, which is stuck in the snow.
The action of the Chinese indicates that
proposals for peace are being made merely
as order to gain time and let winter play
havoc with the invading forces.

The progress of Count Oyama's 'roops
has been arrested by delay in the movements of the first army.

Over thirty German officers and noncommissioned officers are busily engaged
in drilling a new army of Chinese troops.
Foreigners in the service who have had
military experience are joining the central
army and manning Chinese forts. The
Chinese are plucking up courage, in view
of the climatic difficulties with which the
enemy has to contend. Vicercy ChangChi-Tung is reported to be on his way
back to Wachang, in order to start construction of the projected grand trunk
rallway. He is a man of great energy.

UNCLE SAM AND CHINA.

GRESHAM'S PROMPT ACTION.

THE STATE OF TRADE

MRS. SHIELDS AND HER DIAMONDS.

The New York Sun of yesterday contained quite an interesting half-column article about a case pending in one of the courts there that grows out of a pur chase of diamonds made in Richmond two or three years ago.

resolutions were offered and adopted to ask Congress for an investigation of Alabama election frauds, and denouncing Cleveland for calling out troops during the railroad strike. These, with others offered in the merning session, will occupy the attention of the National Committee to-morrow at 19 P. M. The conference adjourned until to-morrow.

Among the notable people present are Hon Joseph Harper, of Illinois, who was Lincoin's law-pactner, and who nominated him for President in 1899; John H. Me-Donaid, a former Democrat, of Tennessee, and "Cyclone" Davis, of Texas. Coxey and Carl Browne were heavily sat on in several attempts to be heard, and cut only a small figure. The conference and committee will adjourn without date to-morrow.

tion which followed she said she lived in a flat, which was partly furnished with money given her by her mother. She was separated from her husband, whose whereabouts she did not know. She formerly lived in Richmond. He failed in business there."

Continuing, the Sun gives ir detail the close examination to which Mrs. Shields was subjected with reference to domestic affairs, from what source she derived her support, etc. Dr. C. T. Shields, who was a specialist, resided for a year or more on Franklin street between Seventh and Eighth. It was while living in this city that the diamonds for his wife, which are now the subject of litigation, were purchased from the H. M. Moses Company. When it was learned that Mrs. Shields had located in New York the claim was assigned to Mr. William S. Keiley, a well-known lawyer, and brother of Hon. A. M. Keiley, who obtained the judgment.

Captain Howgate's Case:

WASHINGTON, December 28.—The case of the United States against Captain Henry W. Howgate, formerly chief of the Signal Service, came up in Criminal Court No. 1 of the District to-day, Judga McComas presiding, Howgate was arraigned, and the three indictments found were presented and read, A. C. S. Worthington, one of Howgate's attorneys, moved to quash the indictments, and the United States District Attorney argust against the motion.

An Offer to the Public.

The Southern Chemical Company of Norfolk, Va., manufacturers of Quratol, desires that every person in Richmond should know the merits of Quratol as a curative agent in burns, cuts, bruises, swellings, and all skin diseases. If any reader will drop them a postal-eard they will send a pamphlet teiling all about the great remedy, and giving 1,000 testion monials from well-known Virginians.

A Calendar Worth Having.

Almost every one has use for a calendar, and by the same token they ought to have one that is some use. A calendar that you have to study or "set" has little excuse for existence.

The one we like best of all is that published by N. W. Ayer & Son, the Newspaper Advertising Agents, of Philadelphis, The handsome copy for 18% carries on its seal their famous motto, "Keeping Everlastingly at It Brings Success," which will alone each day be worth to all who use it far more than the price of the calendar. The size is generous, and the work a beautiful specimen of the printers' art.

The price is 25 cents, delivered everywhere post paid, and in perfect condition,

at Vaughan's, 602 east Broad street, Prices reduced 50 per cent. 'Phone us your order. 'Phone, 751. VAUGHAN'S.

Put Weather Strips on your doors and windows. Prices reduced 50 per cent. 'Phone 751. VAUGHAN'S, 602 east Broad street.

When Baby was atild, we gave her Queen When she was a Child, she cried for Quee When she became Min, she chang to Que